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WASHINGTON

The CAPITAL OF THE NATION

1907

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WASHINGTON

The Capital of the Nation

Descriptive of the most important features of America's most beautiful and interesting city.

Published by the

JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE JAMESTOWN EXPOSITION

Appointed in 1906 by the

WASHINGTON BOARD OF TRADE
the JOBBERS' AND SHIPPERS' ASSOCIATION
and the BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION

Compiled by GEORGE H. GALL
Washington, 1907

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WASHINGTON

The Capital of the Nation

THIS PUBLICATION is issued for the purpose of furnishing visitors who register at the Washington reception room at the Jamestown Exposition with a comprehensive guide of the National Capital, and also a souvenir of their visit to the Washington Exhibit in the Manufacturers' and Liberal Arts Building. :: ::

¶ The Committee extends a cordial invitation to Jamestown visitors to visit Washington, and to make themselves known to members of the Committee and other Washington merchants.

¶ The following pages briefly illustrate the varied attractions of America's most beautiful Capital City.

DESCRIPTIVE

of its

Great Government Departments, Educational Institutions, Financial Institutions, Beauties as a City, Historic Associations, Municipal and Commercial Organizations, Manufactures, Wholesale Trade, Retail Establishments. :: :: :: ::

¶ List of Contributors: Hon. Henry L. West, Commissioner of the District of Columbia; Milton E. Ailes, Vice-President Riggs National Bank, formerly Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; Charles W. Semmes, Chairman Wholesale Trade Committee of the Chamber of Commerce; D. J. Kaufman, Chairman Retail Trade Committee of the Chamber of Commerce; Robert N. Harper, President Chamber of Commerce; Allen D. Albert, Editor The Washington Times; Charles F. Wallraff, Convention Committee of the Chamber of Commerce; Dr. Mitchell Carroll, George Washington University; Arthur C. Moses, Chairman Manufactures Committee, Chamber of Commerce.

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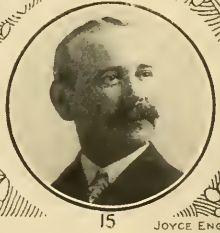
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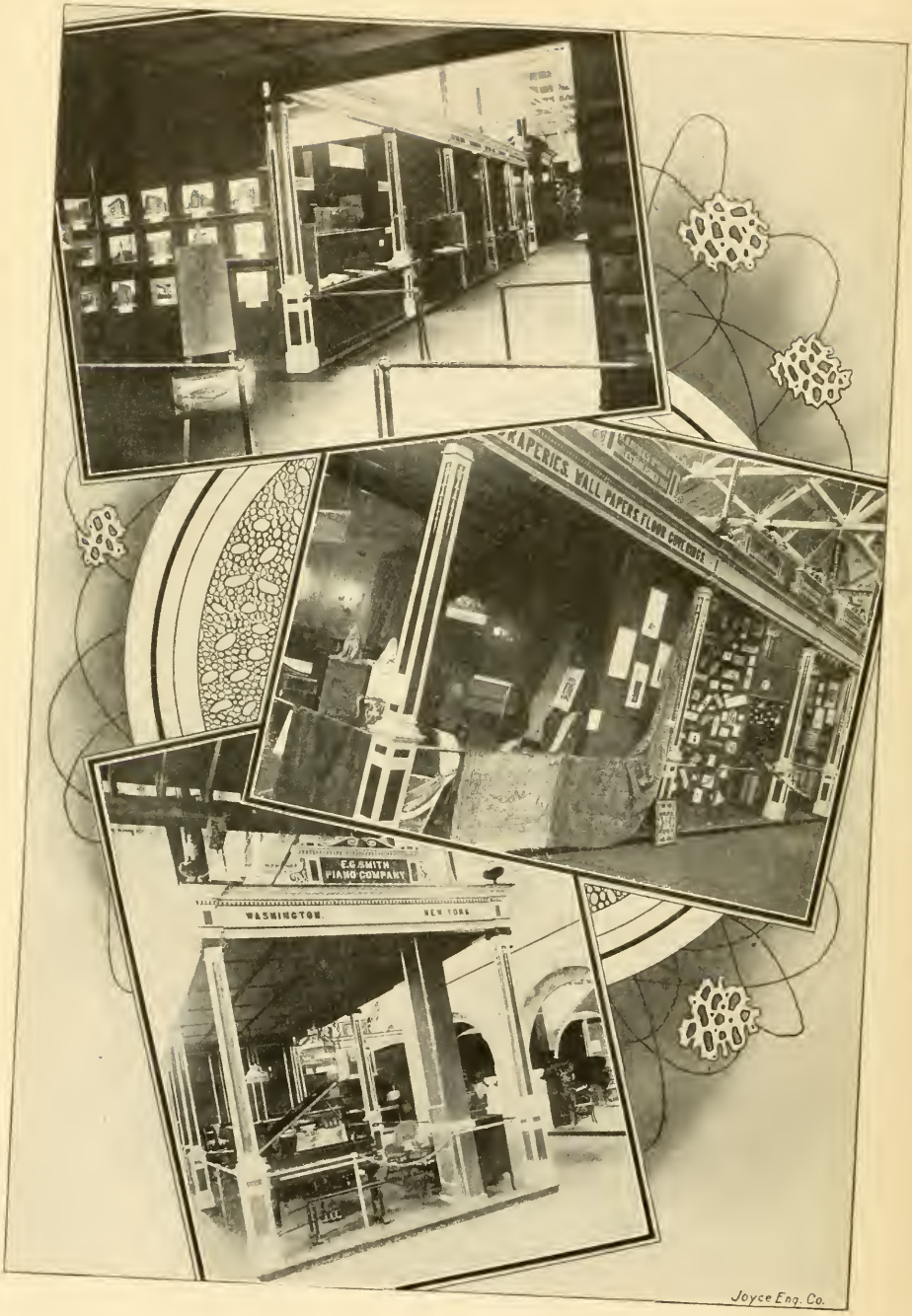
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WASHINGTON AT JAMESTOWN

THE CAPITAL'S PART IN THE EXPOSITION

BY

Arthur C. Moses

Member of Joint Committee of Fifteen

THE HISTORY of the creditable exhibit of Washington's business men at Jamestown, dates back to the fall of 1906. At that time the desirability of having a commercial exhibit at the Exposition became so apparent that five members each of the Washington Board of Trade, the Jobbers' and Shippers' Association, and the Business Men's Association were named to form a Joint Committee for the purpose of arranging for representation at the Ter-Centennial.

MANUFACTURES AND LIBERAL ARTS BUILDING IN WHICH IS WASHINGTON EXHIBIT

The committee elected Thos. W. Smith, chairman; Munroe Luehs, secretary, and Robert N. Harper, treasurer. An effort was made by the committee to get Congress to appropriate $25,000 for a District of Columbia building at the fair, but although this project was strongly urged by the Commissioners, Congress failed to make the allowance.

In spite of this discouragement, the committee engaged space in the Manufactures and Liberal Arts building and proceeded to dispose of it to local exhibitors. The following firms took space and sent their exhibits: Thos. W. Smith, lumber; F. G. Smith Piano Co.; W. B. Moses & Sons, furniture and floor coverings; The Scientific American, publishers; National Electrical Supply Co.; American Lock-Tile Co.; R. P. Andrews Paper Co.; Geo. P. Killian, paper box manufacturer, and the Maurice Joyce Engraving Co.

Ample space was also allowed for a "Craftsman" reception room for visitors to the Washington section. This was handsomely furnished by W. B. Moses & Son, without cost to the other exhibitors. The expense of maintenance was borne by the business men whose names appear as advertisers in this publication.

The exhibit stands as a demonstration of the progressive spirit of Washington

RECEPTION ROOM WASHINGTON EXHIBIT

business men. Since the creation of the Joint Committee, two of the original business bodies, the Jobbers' and Shippers' and the Business Men's Associations, have combined and now form a body known as the Washington Chamber of Commerce.

District of Columbia Day was celebrated at the Exposition on June 11th. The District Commissioners, Presidents Wilson and Harper, of the Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce, and other distinguished Washingtonians, with the officials of the Exposition Company, held a public reception in the Government building, and special exercises filled the day. The Washington Chamber of Commerce chartered the steamer *Newport News*, and attended the celebration in a body.

WASHINGTON—THE CAPITAL OF THE NATION

BY

Hon. Henry Litchfield West

Commissioner of the District of Columbia

DESIGNED with wonderful foresight and developed in accordance with the original plan, the National Capital is to-day the most beautiful city of its size in the United States, and bids fair, in course of time, to rival the capitals of the old world. Its future progress and improvement should be a matter of patriotic pride to every American citizen.

Rich in historic associations, the National Capital offers unusual attractions to the visitor. Under a massive white-domed building, the laws of the nation have been enacted for generations, while in the same impressive edifice the Supreme Court of the United States has construed the Constitution and the statutes. The Congressional Library stands as a monument to the intelligence and artistic spirit of the people; the Washington Monument typifies in its simple and stately sublimity the lofty character of the great soldier whose name it bears; the White House is endeared to every heart as the home of every President for a hundred years; and majestic edifices everywhere manifest the glory and the dignity of the republic. Just beyond the horizon is the tomb of Washington, before which every American stands with uncovered head.

Not alone in material things, but in the efforts which are being made to alleviate suffering and improve the condition of the distressed is the National Capital progressing. The people are imbued with an earnest desire to secure ideal results. They create a healthy public sentiment which condemns wrong and stimulates earnest endeavor toward the accomplishment of good results. Under this beneficient influence the National Capital advances; but its onward march will be all the more rapid and certain if the people of the nation will regard it with something more than perfunctory interest. This is the lesson which should be brought home to the heart of every visitor.

IN THIS SMALL BOOKLET it is impossible to touch upon all the important places of interest to the visitor. In addition to those specifically illustrated or mentioned elsewhere the following points should not be omitted by anyone who has the time to spend in the city:

Agricultural Department, open 9 to 4.30, Mall, Twelfth and Fourteenth streets, S.W.

Army Medical Museum, open 9 to 4.30, 7th and B streets, S. W.

Botanical Garden, open 8 to 5, Pennsylvania avenue and First street.

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AT THE

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Corcoran Gallery, open 9.30 to 4. Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, 9.30 to 4, from October 1 to May 1, and 9 to 4 from May 1 to July 1. Sundays, November 1 to July 1, 1.30 to 4.30. Mondays, 12 to 4. Public holidays, 10 to 2. Admission, 25 cents Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Other days free. Closed every year July 1 to October 1.

Dead-Letter Museum, open 9 to 4.30, Pennsylvania avenue and Eleventh street.

Fish Commission, open 9 to 4, Sixth and B streets, S. W.

Government Printing Office, open 10 and 2, North Capitol and H streets.

Lincoln Museum, open all day, No. 516 Tenth street.

Marine Barracks, open all day, Eighth and G streets, S. E.

STATE, WAR AND NAVY BUILDING.

Contains 566 rooms and over two miles of corridors. Open to visitors 9-2. Seventeenth street and Pennsylvania avenue.

Mount Vernon, open 11 to 4. Steamboat leaves Seventh and M streets, summer, 10 A. M., 2.30 P. M. November 1 to May 30, 10 A. M., 1.45 P. M. Mt. Vernon trains leave Twelfth street hourly from 10 A. M. to 2 P. M., November 1 to April 30. From May 1 to October 31, 10 A. M. to 3 P. M. Return hourly.

National Museum, open 9 to 4.30, Smithsonian grounds.

Navy Yard, open 9 to sunset, Foot of Eighth street, S. E.

Soldiers' Home, open 9 to sunset, near Seventh street extended.

Zoological Park, open all day, Rock Creek. Open Sunday.

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THE CAPITAL'S ATTRACTIONS

AS A CONVENTION CENTER AND PLACE OF RESIDENCE

BY

Charles F. Wallraff

Secretary and Treasurer, Moore & Hill, Incorporated, and Member Conventions Committee, Chamber of Commerce

ALL AMERICAN CITIES have much in common, all, save one—Washington. It is unlike all others. It is unique. It stands pre-eminently in a class by itself. It is, first of all, the Capital. Typically American, it is at the same time the most cosmopolitan. It is not to be compared with any other city of its country. It is a world-city. Its class is that of the other world-capitals—Paris,

THE CUSTIS-LEE MANSION.

In the National Cemetery, at Arlington. A beautiful view of Washington is had from the porch. Open daily to visitors. Reached by trolley.

London, Berlin, Vienna, St. Petersburg, Rome, and therefore, is only to be compared with them. Other cities have local peculiarities, slightly differentiating them from each other; Washington's characteristics are national and international.

J. B. MORREY

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

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Here is the real center of the Nation, politically, socially, intellectually. Scan the columns of the newspapers—the date line Washington appears more often in connection with matters of general import than that of any other city in the country; read the magazines—no other American city figures so largely, is mentioned so often; note the illustrations—pictures of her buildings, her parks, her other places of interest, are omnipresent; read the history of our Nation—Washington left out of our country's chronicles would make the story unrecognizable; walk her streets—the very pavements tell of history. The broad avenues you tread have echoed with the footsteps of every statesman, every warrior, of your country since Madison. Her walls have reverberated with the words of every orator whose name is found in over a century of national history. Its beginning dates back to the immortal Washington, who chose the spot on which the city now stands, who labored to make the city a reality, and whose greatest memorial it now is.

Located on one of the country's most beautiful and historic rivers, on one of the choicest spots imaginable for such a city, one designed by nature for such a purpose, not placed here by chance or whim, with an equable climate, close to the seaboard and the great cities of the East, and in touch with the country at large, no other city holds so many inducements to the sight-seer or the resident. Clean, free from smoke, healthful, beautiful at all seasons, Washington as a place of residence is a perennial source of joy. None, indeed, there are who will not find much to interest here. To the student will appeal her libraries, chiefest among them being the great Library of Congress, most beautiful building of its kind in existence and one of the greatest treasure-houses of literature in the world. Five universities, one other in prospect, and almost numberless colleges and schools stamp Washington as the Nation's seat of learning.

Art has its exponent in the famous Corcoran Art Gallery, with its priceless collection.

Ranking among the leading museums of the world are the Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum, and the Army Medical Museum.

Astronomical science is represented by the world-famous Naval Observatory, natural history by the National Zoological Park, one of the most comprehensive collections of animal life extant and placed in a beautiful park, ideally adapted by nature and by art to the particular use to which it has been put.

The government buildings hold much to interest.

The lover of flowers can roam at will in the Botanical Gardens and the Conservatories of the Agricultural Department and feast the eye on the countless displays in the parks and open-spaces on every hand about the city. Here grow almost every known species of tree. Hundreds in the parks are plainly labeled, the Latin and common names being displayed.

In brief, Washington holds every attraction to the sight-seer and to the one who would select a place for his home.

It is a part of the education of every American to see it. Here is everything to delight the eye, to please the ear, to refresh one's knowledge of history, to stimulate one's imagination, to fire anew one's patriotism. A visit to Washington is a treat always to be remembered, a delight to be lived over in retrospection as long as life lasts, a fruitful theme to be talked over as are unrolled pages of national history, with Washington as the theatre of action. Even as it is the most interesting city to the tourist, so is it the ideal city as a residence. Its appealing charm, which delights the visitor, loses none of its spell on long acquaintance. The sight-seer would become a resident, while the resident remains always a sight-seer.

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WASHINGTON'S RETAIL TRADE

ADVANTAGES OFFERED TO THE OUT-OF-TOWN SHOPPER

BY

By D. J. Kaufman

Chairman Committee on Retail Trade of the Washington Chamber of Commerce

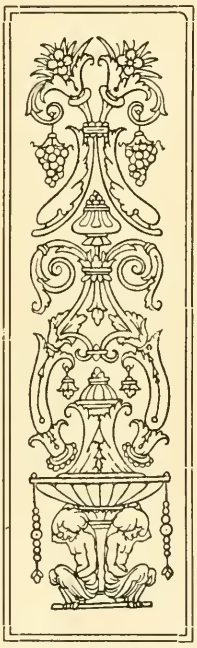
WASHINGTON is an ideal shopping center. Its establishments, in all lines of retail trade, are complete, attractive and quite up to date. To please the buyers of a city so cosmopolitan in its make up the merchants of Washington, of necessity, cater to varied and exacting tastes. Progressiveness is the watch-word. A spirit of mercantile alertness is on all sides apparent.

THE PENSION OFFICE.

F, G, Fourth and Fifth streets. In this building is held the Inaugural Ball given by the citizens of Washington in honor of each newly inaugurated President of the United States.

The last two decades have witnessed a marvelous development and expansion in retail business. The capital city is fully abreast of its larger neighbors. There is nothing to be had elsewhere that cannot be had here, and upon equal terms. In the long ago some Washingtonians were wont to go out of town to do their shopping, but

Parker, Bridget & Co.



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of MEN, WOMEN, and CHILDREN

¶ A visit to the Nation's Capital is incomplete if you fail to visit this establishment

¶ Its splendid facilities for caring for Mail Orders makes shopping by mail easy and satisfactory : : : : : :

Pennsylvania Ave. and Ninth Street

WASHINGTON, D. C.

that is only a tradition now. To-day they buy at home and, moreover, continually find pleasure in making known the city's surpassing advantages in the way of conveniently-located and completely-equipped retail establishments.

To the people living in the territory contiguous to the capital these shopping advantages must appeal more strongly all the time. Here there is much to be seen while on buying bent. A day cannot be more pleasurably or profitably spent than at the capital, with its manifold attractions for the visitor—its parks and public buildings, its repositories of knowledge of State, its governmental workshops, its halls of Congress and its great institutions of learning. A liberal education in itself

PATENT OFFICE.

This building contains head offices of the Interior Department, and model room of inventions. Open 9-2. F, G, Seventh and Ninth streets.

is to be derived from such a visit. Fortunate, indeed, therefore, are those people living within easy distance, who, by doing their retail trading here, are thus enabled to combine business with pleasure in the most profitable manner imaginable. This phase of the Washington retail situation, in my opinion, is certain to be emphasized as time goes on to the mutual profit of the merchant and the patron. There is no valid reason why the capital should not secure and hold much of the retail trade of the surrounding country; there is every valid reason why it should secure and hold such trade.

This inevitably is destined to be an important part of Washington's future.

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WASHINGTON'S EXCLUSIVELY WHOLESALE

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CHARLES J. BELL, President

SEND FOR DESCRIPTIVE BOOKLET

WASHINGTON'S MUNICIPAL AND COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

THE WASHINGTON BOARD OF TRADE
THE WASHINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BY

Allen D. Albert, Jr.

Editor The Washington Times

TWO BUSINESS bodies serve the District of Columbia in lieu of a town council or State legislature. They are the Washington Board of Trade, organized seventeen years ago, and the Washington Chamber of Commerce, now less than a year old. If the Capital is to make progress commercially and its interest in the partnership with Congress is to find full expression, it must be with the help of these two organizations. Between them, it is within the truth to say they represent every kind of business, every class of citizens, every reasonable movement for the public good.

The Board of Trade is not accurately described in its name. Rather than the accustomed association of stock traders or association for the development of business, it is a committee of 700 citizens, devoted to changes in the laws, to representing the District before Congress, and to business only as a feature in the general welfare. By calculation of a former president, not more than twenty per cent of its members are engaged in trade; the remainder consists of leading lawyers, doctors, employees of the government, and representatives of other non-commercial pursuits.

Accordingly, the record of its achievements is non-commercial. But it is not for that reason unimportant. "Among the conspicuous things in which it has played a strong and public-spirited part," wrote the Board's secretary recently, "are the reclamation of the Potomac flats and the deepening of the river channel; the resolution which resulted in Rock Creek Park; construction of the new Post-Office Building, the new Municipal Building; the new Police Court Building, and many other buildings not purely local in their usefulness; the abolition of grade-crossings for steam railroads and the resultant Union Station; organization and re-organization of the public schools, including the establishing of the great manual-training schools and the construction of many needful school houses; the filtration of the city's water supply; establishment of the extremely successful juvenile court; increase in pay and the force of the police and fire departments; the substitution of modern structures for the old Long Bridge and the construction of a new bridge across the Eastern Branch; the development of a park system throughout the District of Columbia; the completion of the great system of sewers; the free Public Library, and a host of other things the catalogue of which might be wearisome."

(Continued on page 27)

WASHINGTON BOARD OF TRADE
OFFICERS 1907

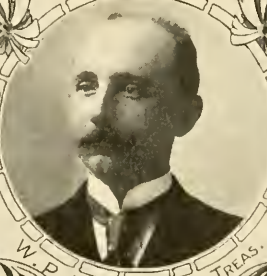
GEN. GEORGE H. HARRIES, SEC.

CUNO H. RUDOLPH,
1ST. VICE PRES.

E. SOUTHARD PARKER,
2ND. VICE PRES.

BRIG. GEN. JOHN M. WILSON, PRES.

WILLIAM M. SHUSTER,
ASS'T. SEC.



W. P. VAN WICKLE, TREAS.

JNO. B. LARNER,
GEN. COUNSEL.

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The Washington Chamber of Commerce. Officers 1907

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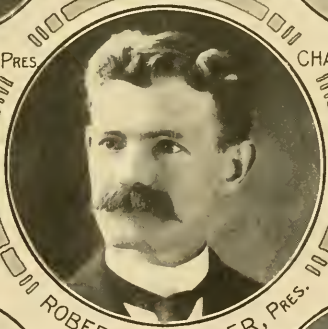
CHARLES J. BELL, 2ND. VICE PRES.



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demand among Washington business men for more trade. While the city grew beautiful it did not grow in commercial importance, and the spirit behind this new trade body was that the right kind of hustle would make it as busy as it was good to look at.

Fine work to this same end had been done by two older associations—the Wash-

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

Washington city post-office occupies first floor. Other parts of building open 9-2. Museum in first floor, East corridor.

ington Business Men's Association, headed by James F. Oyster, and the Washington Jobbers' and Shippers' Association, headed by Charles J. Bell. Apart, these organizations duplicated service; together they might prove a great force behind the Capital's commerce. Their members were quick to see the opportunity and act upon it,

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Souvenirs of Washington

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and last spring they came together in greater number than had ever been assembled for any like meeting in Washington and organized the Chamber of Commerce.

Better shipping facilities, more wholesale and jobbing trade, co-operation for the widening of the Capital's commercial horizon, and the development of an industrial Washington—all with proper regard for municipal beauty as a business asset—are its objects. Its 900 members mean to achieve them by working in their shirt sleeves.

Robert N. Harper, president of the American National Bank and a local manufacturer, was elected the Chamber's first president. Mr. Oyster and Mr. Bell were made the vice-presidents—the former being a leading merchant and president of the District Board of Education; the latter the president of the exceptionally strong American Security and Trust Company, ex-president of the National Society of the Fine Arts, and a leader in other fields. The Secretary is William F. Gude, formerly secretary of the Business Men's Association, a successful florist, and a man of many and important business connections. Theodore Roosevelt was made the first honorary member, with his full knowledge and cordial consent.

The Chamber of Commerce aims this winter to erect an office building with room for its assembly hall, committee rooms, cafe, and club rooms for the entertainment of visiting merchants. Simultaneously a freight committee is working for the full development of the new railroad terminals; a committee on wholesale trade is working for the establishment of new wholesale and jobbing houses; a committee on retail trade is working for shopping excursions to bring the residents of near-by counties and towns here to buy supplies as well as inspect their Capital; and other committees are working for modern penal and correctional methods, reasonable and practical laws as to usury, the reclamation of the Anacostia flats, school buildings enough for all the children of school age, and other similar public needs. This body has manifested a particular interest in the Jamestown Exposition from the day of its organization, watching to welcome to Washington bodies of delegates to conventions held there and making Jamestown the objective of its first excursion.

Friendly rivalry has arisen between these two associations. Both will strive for the leadership in practical good for the District. Both have outlined busy programs for the winter. The ascendency will go to that one which does the better work. Whichever that shall prove to be, the Board of Trade and the Chamber of Commerce comprise together a force which should prove irresistible in behalf of more wholesale trade, new jobbing houses, busy factories, and healthful growth toward that beautiful and practical ideal which is the Nation's hope for the American Capital.

The cuts of public buildings included in this booklet were furnished through the courtesy of The Shoreham Hotel. Electrotypes of same were made and donated by the Southern Printers' Supply Co.

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BY EXPERTS

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510 Twelfth Street, N.W. WASHINGTON, D. C.

WASHINGTON'S MANUFACTURES—POSSIBILITIES OF GROWTH

BY

Robert N. Harper

President of the Washington Chamber of Commerce

WASHINGTON CITY for a century has pursued the policy of minimizing industry and commerce, preferring to remain a center of legislation and of political and social prominence. It is now dawning upon the present generation that this idea is a mistake, and that civic glory may walk hand in hand with industry and commerce.

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Those of us who advocate for Washington a better industrial condition for the future are, I have no doubt, just as zealous in behalf of protecting the beauty of our residential sections, and the comforts and pleasures of our citizens, as those who are opposed to any change.

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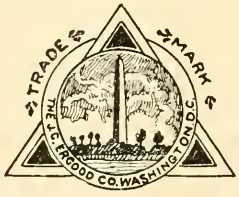

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Washington is a beautiful city and it should always be our pride to keep it so. With all of this beauty of streets, parks, public buildings and private residences, and the vociferous declaration on the part of many of our good citizens, that we must not have industrial and commercial activity within our gates, we stand to-day among the large manufacturing cities of this country, and so little annoyance has it given our people that few of them are aware of the fact.

If we should become a manufacturing center, as the capital of this great country we would be doing nothing more than is done in Paris, Vienna and Berlin, Europe's beautiful capital cities.

The natural conditions surrounding Washington for industrial purposes is an argument of itself in favor of expansion.

Our climate is inducive to such work throughout the year.

Help, male and female, white or colored, skilled or unskilled, is plentiful.

Raw material of every kind is practically at our door.

Transportation both by rail and water is of a nature to cheaply open up the market of the world for our products.

Wages are higher and the number of hours constituting a day's work about the same as in other cities. Our available water power is rarely equalled.

The Manufactures Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, composed of the leaders in the various lines of industry in the District of Columbia, has set itself the task of expanding the manufacturing interests already existing and of increasing the number of establishments. There is much land in the District available for such purposes, and their own successful experiences augur well for the success of the efforts being made by the committee as a whole, and promises added opportunities for employment at home of the youths of Washington, who now go elsewhere to seek a livelihood.

WASHINGTON—A WHOLESALE MARKET FOR THE SOUTH

BY

Charles W. Semmes

Chairman Wholesale Trade Committee, Chamber of Commerce

WASHINGTON can hardly be properly termed a jobbing center, but her wholesale merchants have already demonstrated to the trade of the Southern States, particularly Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina, that this city is a good place to buy goods. The special trade train that went through the South last year demonstrated both to us and to the Southern merchant that our present considerable trade can easily be greatly increased to the satisfaction of both.

Already we have excellent facilities for supplying the needs of the Southern merchant, and the plans of the Chamber of Commerce to make Washington a complete jobbing market promise to put the National Capital on a wholesale footing with her larger neighbors to the North.

E. S. PARKER, President

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Our transportation facilities are of the best, thanks to the efforts of the freight committee of the Jobber's and Shipper's Association, and we need no longer fear discrimination on the part of the railroads, as was formerly the case.

Another factor that will make Washington much stronger as a distributing center will be the establishment of additional manufactories. An able committee of the Chamber of Commerce is now working on this problem.

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

Devoted to scientific research. It contains a beautiful museum of natural history. The National Museum is in the Mall, next to this building. Both are open to visitors from 9 until 4.

Southern merchants have repeatedly expressed themselves as preferring to trade in Washington, provided prices are right. As an indication that they are, the great business done by some of our wholesale houses may be pointed out.

The Southern merchant is welcome in Washington and that he may be made to feel more so, leading jobbers are now planning another special train excursion into the South.

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WASHINGTON—THE EDUCATIONAL CENTER OF THE UNITED STATES

BY

Professor Mitchell Carroll

Of George Washington University

IN HIS last will and testament, George Washington gave expression to his ardent wish that the Capital of the Nation might become the educational center of the new Republic, and to promote the movement he left a legacy which he hoped would be instrumental in quickening the benevolence of the nation and in leading to the establishment of a great university on a private foundation in Washington. If

DESIGN FOR THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING FOR THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

George Washington lived to-day, he would recognize that his dream was being realized, in that Washington is already the scientific center, and is rapidly becoming the educational center of the United States. To appreciate the truth of this statement the reader has only to consider the richness of the resources accessible here for the higher learning, and to regard the city for a moment as a great composite university. The essentials of a university, apart from buildings, are books, museums, laboratories,

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$1,000,000 Bridge. The Government is now completing the $1,000,000 Connecticut Avenue bridge (the largest concrete bridge in the world) which will be open to the public in a few days making Connecticut Avenue a direct line from the White House through our property.

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world, but which in proportion represents several times as many volumes per capita as exist for public use in any other city of the world.'' Greatest of all these collections of books is the Library of Congress, housed in the largest and best equipped library building in the world, with over eleven hundred thousand books and pamphlets, and nearly half a million other articles.

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SCIENTIFIC IMPORTANCE

As to museums, laboratories, and apparatus, we have only to think of the Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum, the Army Medical Museum, the Corcoran Gallery of Art and the various departmental laboratories, to realize our wealth. Men-

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tion should be made also especially of the resources of the scientific bureaus of the Government, as for instance, the many connected with the Department of Agriculture, the Geological Survey, the Bureau of Standards and the like. To cite merely one branch of science as an illustration, there are in Washington eighteen chemical laboratories attached to the different departments of the government, and we have only to add the chemical laboratories of the different universities to appreciate the fact that Washington is the greatest center for the study of chemistry in the country. And by special Act of Congress, approved April 12, 1902, these facilities for research in Governmental collections are now accessible, subject to regulation, to the scientific investigators of the country and to students of any institution of higher education incorporated under the laws of Congress or the District of Columbia.

Furthermore, the scientific activities of the Government and of the universities have brought together in Washington a body of eminent scientists greater in number than exist in any other city of the country. The wide extent of their scientific researches is seen in the activities of the Washington Academy of Sciences and its fourteen affiliated learned societies. Then too, national scientific associations have their offices here — as, for example, the American Association for the Advancement of Science in the Smithsonian Institution, and the Archaeological Institute of America in The George Washington University.

NUMEROUS INSTITUTIONS

With such an environment it is natural that Washington should be the center of the scientific and educational activities of the country. The Carnegie Institution is the great promoter of scientific research; the Smithsonian Institution is the great disseminator of knowledge; the Library of Congress is the great storehouse for the world's learning; and the Universities and educational institutions of the city are training men and women to enter into an appreciation of the intellectual life in all its phases. Not to speak of the efficient public school system nor of the seventy or more private schools that attract boys and girls to Washington from all parts of the country, there are in Washington eight colleges and universities, seven professional schools of law, three of medicine and dentistry, and three of theology. In these institutions there is an aggregate of four hundred and seventy-six professors and instructors and over thirty-five hundred students, making Washington one of the most important university towns in the country. To mention them by name, there are the three colleges, Gallaudet, Gonzaga, and St. John's; and the five universities Georgetown, George Washington, Howard, the Catholic University of America and the American University, which has already a beautiful site with two buildings erected and which will begin regular university work when the endowment fund has reached five million dollars. All of these institutions are doing excellent work and are disseminating the intellectual influences of the capital city throughout the country. Of these the one that bears the name of the Father of his Country has inaugurated the George Washington University Movement, the aim of which is to realize George Washington's desire for a great university of international importance at the seat of Government. To this end it has already raised considerable funds for the purpose of a new site and has undertaken large plans which will lead in time to successful fruition.

THE CAPITAL'S STRONG BANKS

BY

Milton E. Ailes

Vice-President Riggs National Bank and formerly Assistant Secretary of the Treasury

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THE PAST ten years have witnessed a development of banking power in the United States without parallel in our country's history. An enormous increase in national wealth has taken place as a result of a decade of uninterrupted prosperity. The figures of commercial and industrial growth are astounding in their magnitude, and perhaps in no other manner can this great advancement be

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so clearly shown as by a comparison of the resources of national banks to the statements of the Comptroller of the Currency for 1895 to 1905. Between these years the totals have more than doubled, the September statement of the former year having given the resources of all national banks as $3,423,000,000, and that of May, 1905, as $7,327,000,000. Where has there ever before been an instance of such remarkable growth? Looking to the causes thereof it can easily be demonstrated that

two great factors exercised a potent influence in this increase of wealth, one of the final and conclusive settlement of the vexed and disturbing questions relating to our money standard, and the other a gathering of strength and a husbanding of material resources during the lean years following the panic of 1893. With the restoration of confidence all the pent-up energies of a country rich in men and means burst into activities, varied and stupendous. Small wonder it is, therefore, that the banking statistics of cities and sections are dazzling in the pictures they present of universal good times—of a prosperity so far beyond our dreams of riches as to make this litterally a golden age.

Washington lays little claim to pre-eminence as a manufacturing or a trade center, although its commerce is by no means inconsiderable; but, wanting, in a large sense, these factors in the production of wealth, the city might naturally be expected to lag somewhat behind other communities of equal population more favored in these respects. And yet, within the last ten years, the banking institutions of the capital have shared in full measure with other cities in the general growth. Within this brief period the resources of our national banks and trust companies, not including savings and private banks, have nearly trebled, having increased from $26,000,000 in 1895 to $70,000,000 in 1905. Without the benefit of extensive manufactures or a great trade, Washington has about kept pace with the prosperous commercial cities of Louisville, Minneapolis, St. Paul, New Orleans, Detroit, and Omaha. It hardly seems possible that with a population largely dependent upon fixed incomes that so great an advancement could have been accomplished. Nevertheless, the figures speak for themselves, and now it is proper to accord the capital the reputation of being one of the important financial centers of the country.

CONSERVATIVE CHARACTERISTICS

Singularly enough, for some years Washington was slow to appreciate the advantages of the national system. Quite a number of our leading national banks of this day are the successors of old and conservative houses that clung tenaciously to time-honored names and reputations and were loath to make a change, even after the undoubted benefits of Federal supervision became apparent. Of our present national organizations only one accepted membership in the sixties, three in the seventies, three in the eighties, three in the nineties, and two since 1903.

The Riggs National Bank, successor to Riggs & Company; the National Metropolitan Citizens Bank, the Commercial National Bank, and the American National Bank are located in what may be termed the uptown financial district, and convenient to the United States Treasury; the Columbia National Bank, near Ninth and F streets; the Traders National Bank, Tenth street and Pennsylvania avenue; the Lincoln National Bank, Seventh and D streets; the Central National Bank, Seventh street and Pennsylvania avenue; the National Bank of Washington, Seventh street and Louisiana avenue, and the Second National Bank on Seventh street, between E and F streets, are in what may be described as the retail sections of the city; while the business of Capitol Hill is taken care of by the National Capital Bank, Pennsylvania avenue, between Third and Fourth streets, Southeast; that of Georgetown, or West Washington, by the Farmers and Mechanics' National Bank, Thirtieth and M streets, and the City National Bank, 1405 G street Northwest.

Altogether, twenty-one institutions in the District of Columbia have entered the national system since its inauguration in 1863. Of the nine which are not in existence, six have surrendered their charters either through voluntary liquidation or

consolidation, and three have failed. Of the failures, all occurred during the early history of national banking in the District, there having fortunately been no disasters of this character to record for more than a quarter of a century.

While the past, both as to stability and progress, has been highly satisfactory, there is reason to believe that the future will be more so. If, on the other hand, the capital has not been favored by nature or the inclinations of its citizens as a place for the development of a great trade, on the other it may be said that it is free from the vicissitudes usually visited upon cities of greater commercial pretensions. A reasonable explanation for the mighty financial strides which Washington has made in recent years is to be found in an enumeration of its residential advantages and its

THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

A bureau of the Interior Department. This building was formerly occupied by the Post-Office Department. View from steps of Patent Office. Open 9-2.

civic virtues. The beauty of the city, the stability of its government, its freedom from municipal disorders, its immunity from strikes, the solvency and regularity of its great paymaster, Uncle Sam, the delightful salubrity of its climate—all these serving to draw hither those whose fortunes have been won in less peaceful and more precarious marts—are doubtless among the leading causes of its progress. More and more the country at large is learning these advantages, and everywhere among the people of the United States there is a growing realization that Washington is worthy of the republic and destined to be, if indeed it is not already, the most attractive capital city in the world.

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